

Egyptian Star

COMMENCEMENT NUMBER.

Vol. I.

Benton, Ill., April, 1899.

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Published by the Benton High School.

S. T. ROBINSON and S. E. POWLER, Managers.

15095



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For the spring and summer trade of 1899 we expect to carry the best line of General Merchandise in the county. We only have a right to expect the patronage of the people by having what they want for less money than competitors. By courteous treatment, close attention to our business, and letting yours alone, we expect, as in the past, a liberal share of your patronage.

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Reliable Goods and Low Prices.

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Cloaks, Fur Goods.

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My stock is the Largest—Prices the Lowest. Thanking you for the patronage so kindly extended me in the past, and soliciting a continuance of same, I remain

Benton, Ill.

Very Respectfully,

Clara Hudson.

New Millinery. New Millinery.

You will find all the Latest and Best Styles in Hats for Ladies, Misses and Children. Also Ladies' Furnishing Goods. Call and see my New Spring Stock.

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Receives deposits in sums of \$1 and upwards. Pays interest on deposits left six months or longer. Sells drafts good in any part of the commercial world. When you wish to remit money in any sum, large or small, PURCHASE A BANK DRAFT—no application to make out, no letter of advice, no possibility of loss. The safest and cheapest method of remitting money. This bank also has for rental

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Where customers can keep their valuable papers, and can have access to them at any time during business hours.



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C. MOORE, Vice President.
R. A. YOUNGBLOOD, Cashier.

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of Results,
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in Instruction,
of Accommodations,
of Cost.

Southern Illinois



This State Institution is now
completing its 25th year.

STATE NORMAL UNIVERSITY.

The Spring Term will Open on March 28, and Close on June 15.

The Board of Trustees and Faculty are putting forth every effort to meet the demands of the cause of education in Southern Illinois. The excellent Library, Museum, Gymnasium, and Laboratories are utilized for the benefit of the students. Good board may be had at \$2.50 to \$3.50 per week. From indications already apparent the spring term will be one of the largest in the history of the school. The Southern Illinois Athletic and Oratorical Association will hold its annual "Meet" at the University on May 5th. On the following day the School Council will hold its semi-annual meeting in the halls of the institution. The 25th anniversary will be celebrated by appropriate exercises during commencement week. A large attendance is expected. On the evening of Commencement Day the Southern Illinois Teachers' Association will open their annual session in the Normal Hall. Students in the spring term will have many and varied attractions aside from the pleasures of the regular exercises of the school.

For further particulars address,

D. B. PARKINSON, Carbondale, Ill.

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The Oldest College
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A high standard of scholarship, an excellent library and laboratories, a delightful location, and a very strong faculty of teachers make Shurtleff College

A most desirable place
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Oldest and most attractive
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Expenses Very Moderate.

JOHN E. BRADLEY, Pres.

EGYPTIAN STAR.

PUBLISHED IN THE INTEREST OF THE HIGH SCHOOL.

VOL. I.

BENTON, ILLINOIS, APRIL, 1899.

No.

Commencement.

Commencement days are drawing near,
When the Senior trims his sail,
And launches forth on untried seas
To battle with the gale;
But finds, ere long, his little bark
Is very, very, frail.

CLOUDS and sunshine come in quick succession over the life of the senior during his last weeks. There are days when the importance of his position rises before him and he swells to immense proportions; there is a sudden abnormal development—but alas!—poor thing—what a lion lies in wait for him. The starch is all taken out of him when he receives his manuscript, which he had worked over so hard with the delusion that it would be his commencement oration, and finds it unmercifully butchered by the cruel hands of the principal.

"But why should we call the closing exercises of the Senior Class 'Commencement?'" we are asked.

It is the time when the student closes his study in the public school and commences his career in life's school. Such questions as these present themselves to him: "What shal. I do?" "What am I here for?" And a few years later this question: "Where am I at?"

Yes, Commencement is a great event in the life of the High School pupil or the College graduate. Let us each and every one lend our assistance in making it as pleasant and profitable as is possible, for heaven knows that there are enough ups and downs in later life that they must undergo, or overcome. So cast your flowers upon the Seniors and bid them God speed in their work.

GLORIOUS time. Spring time. The flowers spring. The blood springs. Knees spring. The graduates spring. Dad's pocket book springs—wide open.

Commencement is the day of the graduate. Made to order. No hand-me-down. All wool. Made out of the woolly times we had to get to it. The air is cologne. Splendor all 'round us. We feel full of angles. That's Geometry. We cut fine figures. That's Trigonometry. We wear the flowers of Botany on our bosoms. We are stars of the first magnitude. Astronomy. We shake the life out of dead languages between our intellectual teeth. We know about Romulus and Father Tiber; the mysteries of Egypt; the lore of India. Napoleon bows to us. Shakespeare also. We know everything. We feel sorry for our parents. Poor things! Glorious world. Full of rainbows. Pots of gold at every end thereof. We are after them. We have Fame by the fore-top. Its trumpet is in our hand. How good we feel. The earth is velvet. The sky purple and gold. The air ozone. It would take two dollars apiece to buy us. If this would only last! How did we get here? Hard study. How can we stay here? We can't. Is there a higher alp? In front of us lie crest after crest reaching to the roof of the world. Shall Salust turn to Sawdust? Will Anabasis degenerate to plain nab sis? Never. If we feel always as we feel today, Kipling will soon be chips and whetstones, Shakespeare's laurels will rest on our heads. Byron will be sorry he ever tried to poetize. Mark Twain will never raise another laugh.

Well, we all feel kind to the graduates. We all wish them well. We have been here and enjoyed it. It is a pleasant milestone in life, crowned with flowers. So here's a health to all. Those thousands who have gone. Those who are here today. Those who come out of every tomorrow. In the language of Tiny Tim: "May God bless us, every one."

Our Alumni.

IN March 1888, the first class to finish the course of study laid out for the Benton High School was awarded diplomas.

There is no doubt in the mind of a single member of the class of '88 that this was the brightest class that ever graduated from any High School. They really knew about all there was to know at that time, and ever since have been trying to unlearn the fact. In other words, they have been for ten years past, slowly discovering that there are a few things yet to learn. Possibly others have the same feeling. The class of '99 could doubtless tell us many things we do not know. But there is one thing we could probably never convince them of—they do not know it all.

Our work during the school year of '87-'88 was as thorough and interesting as the corps of teachers could make it.

The class consisted of twelve members: Mattie Belle Layman, Lila Hudson, Aileen Webster, Ida Mooneyham, Nancy Eugenia Browning, Charles Webb, Thomas Dial, John Crawford Layman, Thomas Oscar Felts, John Levi Browning, Napoleon B. Whittington and James K. Browning.

The graduating exercises were held in the First Baptist church which stood on the site now occupied by the present building. The large audience was certainly very charitable. They "suffered long and were kind." The reader will probably better appreciate this fact when I say that each member of the class was permitted to present an essay or oration of their own preparing. There were two prizes to be awarded—one for the best essay and one for the best oration. Among the many qualities, good, bad and indifferent, which these productions doubtless possessed they were certainly free from what we are told is the "soul of wit"—brevity.

As John Levi Browning talked learnedly of Napoleon Bonaparte and his wonderful achievements, at the same time enduring all the agony of his first pair of cuffs and his older brother's necktie, we thought surely, of material such as this, are heroes made.

John Crawford Layman told us all we did not know of General Grant. His essay was well received, and we doubted not, had the honors which had been heaped on General Grant have been suddenly thrust on John

Crawford Layman, at that time, he would have worn them with due grace and dignity.

James K. Browning chose for his subject "Competition." He talked knowingly and well, and impressed his hearers with the fact that in the competition for place, he would, with others of the class of '88 be fouled in the front ranks.

Mattie Belle Layman spoke of "The Patriotic Women of America." We even then had dreams that some of us would be the Helen Gould of the future.

We are sorry that space forbids our speaking of each one separately, suffice it to say that each did his best, and a solemn hush fell over the assembled multitude when they realized that all was over.

The judges in rendering their decision related in a very touching manner the trials through which they had passed, and the difficulties they had encountered before finally determining which among so many good things were really best. There were at least two persons in the house who were entirely satisfied with their decision, and thoroughly convinced of their ability to judge in such matters. Of these Charley Webb, to whom was awarded the prize for the best oration, was one, and Nancy E. Browning, who received the prize for the best essay, was the other.

The one who made the highest grade in the final examination was to be valedictorian, but as there were three who made exactly the same grade, and each wanted the last word—two of them, being daughters of Eve insisted on the right—the young man proved his claims to kinship with Solomon by retiring from the field early in the fray, the matter was amicably adjusted, by the entire class singing a very pathetic ballad entitled "Farewell to our teacher and parents dear."

Miss Aileen Webster was salutatorian, and not one present, especially of those who knew her best, but will recall her dignified and gracious manner and her really lovable disposition in every association of life.

It was during this year that the first effort was made to establish a school library. Prof. Whittington hired Mr. Womack to fashion a book case. An elocutionary entertainment was given by one Prof. Meeks the proceeds of which, after paying all expenses, went to the library fund. Among the first books pur-

chased were a set of Chamber's Encyclopedia, a Gazetteer and a Biographical Dictionary. The good people of the town contributed some smaller volumes, among which were a number of Mary J. Holmes' works, one or two by the "Duchess," and possibly a copy of Scott's "Lady of the Lake." These last mentioned were highly appreciated by the boys and girls and were rarely to be found on the shelves of the library case. These books, with an organ that had evidently seen better days, the remains of a Webster's Dictionary that had been there "so long that the memory of man runneth not to the contrary," and nearly all of a set of cubical blocks constituted the apparatus and equipment of the High School department. Anyone so desiring can view all that now remains of the above described articles by visiting the museum of the High School. Miss Alice Kingcade, now teaching in the Indian schools in Wyandotte, Kansas, was assistant principal.

We all recall Napoleon Whittington's persistent and heroic efforts to put seventy-five cities on the map of England. John Crawford Layman's desire for information as to whether Mt. Vesuvius was an "extinct" or an "active" volcano. Charley Webb's unfailing good humor and his utter inability to remember whether the Skager Rack was east or west of the Peninsula of Jutland. John Browning's fondness for big words and his solemn announcement that Columbus' bones were three times "interpreted." T. Oscar Felts always impressed us with his wisdom and superior knowledge by habitually absenting himself from recitation. If by some chance he did appear he adhered strictly to the belief that "silence is golden." Tom Dial, whom we all remember with feelings of kindness, was the poet of the class. Rarely was he called on for a recitation on any subject or for work in literature that he did not respond in rhyme. James K. Browning's habit of blushing and stammering when addressed by the young ladies of the class caused the boys no end of fun, and made him a prime favorite with all the girls.

The Board of Education at this time was composed of three members—J. T. Chenault, T. M. Mooneyham and C. C. Payne. And be it said to their credit that they took a real interest in the work of the entire school. We could reckon on the presence of one or more

of them at our monthly examinations. And words of commendation and encouragement which they gave us then are not yet forgotten.

The faculty included the following: Principal, S. B. Whittington, now connected with the Southern Illinois Normal University at Carbondale, Ill. Assistant Principal, Alice Kingcade, now teaching in the Indian school at Wyandotte, Kansas. Grammar School, W. F. Dillon, ex-County Judge of Franklin County. Intermediate, J. E. Moore, now druggist in Benton. Second Primary, Miss Belle Browning (Mrs. F. J. Hickman). First Primary, Miss Lizzie Seargeant (Mrs. Peck of Ashley, Illinois).

Of the class of '88 five are still residents of Benton, Illinois: Napoleon B. Whittington, who is a successful teacher in the schools of Franklin County; John C. Layman, Mattie Belle Layman, Nancy E. Browning, and John L. Browning, who is conducting retail book and stationery business.

Miss Aileen Webster died at her home in Benton, January 1893. Tom Dial was up to the time of his death a teacher in Franklin and adjoining counties. James K. Browning is principal of the High School in Piggott, Arkansas. Charley Webb is practicing law in Belleville, Ill., and was last year the Democratic candidate for County Judge of St. Clair County. Miss Ida Mooneyham is now Mrs. E. B. Gove of East St. Louis, Ill. Miss Lila Hudson is a stenographer with Simmons Hardware Company in St. Louis, Mo. T. Oscar Felts is a graduate of Barnes Medical College, St. Louis, and is now practicing in Iowa.

Opportunity.

A GREAT word! Who can fathom its meaning? The young cannot comprehend it; the middle aged heed not its pleadings; the old fill the earth below and the heavens above with their lamentations, the burden of which is lost! lost! lost! and with the poet we hear them say:

"O, Opportunity, thou didst come to me
When I was young;
And I didst look upon thy face
And knew thee not,
But scorned thee in my early ignorance
When wilt thou return, now that I know thee?"

ANSWER:

"When thy limbs are weak and palsied,
Thine eyes blinded, with tears of despair,
Thy reason festered, and thy piteous heart
consumed to ashes,—
Then will I return, and mock thee."

The Egyptian Star.

Published by and in the interest of
the Benton High School.

Commencement Number.

 ROBINSON, Superintendant, | Managers
S. M. FOWLER, - - Principal, |

EDITORIAL STAFF:

KATE HICKMAN '98,	- - -	Alumni
EMMA JONES '99,	- - -	Poetical
WILLIE LUDWIG '99,	- - -	Humorous
WILL FOULK '98,	- - -	Athletics
JOHN PAYNE '99,	- - -	Oratorical
GERTIE CARR '99,	- - -	Music.

BOARD OF EDUCATION:

A. M. BROWNLEE,	- - -	President.
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DR. F. J. HICKMAN,	- - -	E. FITZGERRELL

TEACHERS:

S. T. ROBINSON,	- - -	Superintendent.
S. M. FOWLER,	- - -	Principal.
NINA THORNTON,	- - -	Assistant.
GRACE E. SWOFFORD,	MRS. W. F. BURKITT,	
MRS. JENNIE CRAWFORD,	CARRIE LAYMAN.	

Entered at Post-Office as second-class matter. Circulation free to advertisers and contributors.

SINGLE COPIES 5 CTS.

On sale at Browning's Book Store.

Salutatory.

In presenting the EGYPTIAN STAR to the public the managers wish to say that the primary object is to give something of the work and history of our school. In doing this we hope to give only such matters as will interest patrons, former students and members of the Alumni of the school.

The secondary object is to give such matter as will be interesting to all those in sympathy with our public school system, and especially to those favoring stronger and broader work in the High Schools of Egypt.

We are greatly indebted for the substantial assistance given us by the business men of our city, and for the willing and cheerful help of the Alumni and contributors in general. We trust our efforts will be appreciated and that the STAR may be published regularly throughout the school years.

The leading business men of Benton advertising in the STAR. You can't do better than to patronize them.

§ § § § §

Our High School considers it a great treat to have such a man as Dr. de Blois address them. The graduating class should be congratulated for being able to secure him.

§ § § § §

We have quite a number of extra copies of the STAR that would be highly appreciated by friends out of town. Call on the managers or at Browning's Book Store and secure a few copies before they are gone, and send them to your friends.

§ § § § §

According to precedent, the pastor of the First Baptist church, Rev. I. S. Hicks, will deliver the Baccalaureate sermon before the class this year, at the M. E. church, Sunday, April 2. Next year it will fall to the lot of the pastor of the M. E. church and will be delivered in the Methodist church.

§ § § § §

The STAR has this to say to the graduates: Keep up your studies. You may have great powers of mind that study will develop. No one is noted because of graduating from a High School. That is only a first step. Success only comes after long, patient, hard work. So study, and make a habit of study. The world is full of grand opportunities for the man or woman who is able to seize them, but for the sluggard or drowsy there is no place.

§ § § § §

In launching a new journal on the foaming billows of a seething world, we do so with the proud consciousness that many a launch has been launched previous to the launching of this launch, which for genuine launch does not possess the lunge, the joyous, broad-shouldered, intellectual and oratorical head-on glode with which our launch glides into the Pacific ocean of gray matter which is now making lathery foam all over the shores of Egypt. We cut the bob stays of our proud craft, hoist her jib-boom, unfasten her fet-locks to the breeze, crack a bottle of enthusiasm on her anterior nostril and bid her sail up to the head of the world and win for the Benton High School high credit and renown.

Gymnaestics in the High School.

[NINA THORNTON.]

ONE of the important questions now claiming the attention of educators is the advisability of a regular place in the High School course for gymnastics. There are some who say that the pupils get sufficient exercise at the recesses and before and after school, from their out-door games and the chores that they are usually required to do about the house. That is all right so far as it goes. We would not for a minute abolish this means of physical exercise—nay, rather would we do all in our power to encourage it. But even exercise of this kind needs to be looked after, directed and suited to the needs of the pupil. Everyone will concede that the child is a being whose mental and physical powers are to be developed. You would not think of leaving his mind to develop of its own accord, only as nature crowds and forces it. No, your endeavor is to secure the most skilled teachers to give him mental training. Is it not just as reasonable that his physical nature needs care and guidance in order to secure development?

For the consideration of parents, boards of education and teachers, this subject seems to divide itself into two questions, the primary of which is, "Is this gymnastic training of value in developing the child?" The secondary, "Does it aid the teacher in securing that development?" If good and sufficient reasons for an affirmative answer to either of these can be given, it seems that this in itself should be enough to cause parents, school boards and teachers to give these questions their earnest and careful attention.

There is just now a great outcry from parents that their children come from the High School physical wrecks, or with injured health. How can we prevent this sacrifice of the physical for the sake of mental culture? Undoubtedly those who are directly interested in education should look into this.

It is the duty of those who have charge of children to educate citizens for the state—citizens who are free from bodily affections that can cause them to stand in the way of the common good. The State demands and deserves of its schools men and women of strength, not weaklings. Therefore the teacher should not only be the child's intellectual guide, but his physical guide as well. Nor

can this training of the vital powers be accomplished in a haphazard way. The teacher must have a definite aim in view in this, as in any other branch of education. He should see to it that the children select good games, those that will give them the proper kind of exercise without proving injurious. The games and exercises should be varied to suit the ability, age, size, sex and moods of different children. Again, the exercises should be such that by the venture to perform them, a wholesome influence is exerted over the nerves; courage is increased; self-confidence is strengthened; by the measuring of his strength the pupil is guarded against rashness, and by means of a rapid and appropriate use of his strength, the entire control of every part of his body, his power of will and action receive their highest development, and as someone has said, "Are not all these qualities beautiful and noble enough to give them a home in the temples of the people, in the public schools?"

Juvenal has said, "Optandum est, ut sit mens sana in corpore sano." So it is, one is necessary to the other. A railroad company may put on the road one of the latest improved engines in charge of the most experienced and skilled engineer, but if there has been a washout anywhere along the line, if any section of the track is out of repair, a wreck is likely to follow. So with the human being. No matter how high a degree of culture the mind may have reached, if the body is not equally well developed, somewhere down the line of life a wreck usually occurs. Health once lost can scarcely ever be entirely regained, but by the practice of bodily training it shall rather be maintained than restored.

It is a well known fact that the tender body of the child must suffer from the necessary confinement of eight or ten years in the close atmosphere of the school room. Hence his intellectual labor ought to be relieved by the agreeable exercise of his vital powers. Thus not only the muscles and bones are strengthened but also bodily defects arising from evil habits are corrected. Successful instruction requires attention and obedience. If the vital powers of the children are kept clear and active, better attention always results and obedience is thereby promoted. The watchword among the teachers is "Interest." Secure order and obedience by interest—make your school intensely interesting. Yes, and

there is no better way to secure interest than by physical culture. During these exercises the child lays aside all his little sorrows and troubles, relaxes his mind and by the time the exercises are over he has forgotten his grievances and is again ready to enter upon his study with renewed zeal.

Shall we then encourage children to run and play to the satisfaction of themselves and the joy of all? Shall we deny youth its right of physical training? Rather let us remember with the poet:

"The workman for his work a goodly tool doth need,
The fighter goodly weapons for the fray;
Thou fighter of the Lord, and workman, spirit, heed
That thou treat not thy body in too light a way;
It is thy working tool, it is thy battle gear,
Keep thou it well, in work and fight to persevere."

Does the High School Pay?

[S. M. FOWLER.]

AN institution that does not pay is a failure. In all the ways of life the one prevailing question is, "Does it pay," and the wise economist avoids that business from which he cannot, in some way, realize more than he invested.

We count up the cost of the High School; we see the vast buildings and the broad grounds; we approvingly note the costly furniture and apparatus, and we watch the teachers as they regularly take from the public fund their salary, while in return they apparently give nothing but their time. We figure it up in dollars and cents and find the sum greater than we imagined, yet in face of all this there is not one who would say that the High School does not pay. It does not return the money with which it has been supported; it cannot rebuild sidewalks and pave streets, but it pays in its own good currency—the sparkling gems of thought, the white pearls of truth and the pure nuggets of character. It surrounds the fireside with intelligence and makes the home more happy. It broadens religious thought and elevates society. It awakens dormant powers that else would have slumbered on unrealized. It gives equal chances to all and fills a place that otherwise must be left vacant. We daily see its legal tenders stamped on the faces of those who

have for any considerable length of time been under its influences and we feel that it is truly paying its way.

It is a comparatively small per cent of pupils who, when they have finished their work in the High School, ever go to college and complete their education. It is therefore necessary that we not only have a High School where it is convenient, but that the course be as extensive as possible. By this means those who are not permitted to go away to college will receive a good education at home.

We cannot have a good thing unless we pay for it. "There is no excellence without great labor." Do not reluctantly drop the dollar into the till of our High School system—it pays no interest on money it does not receive. Still it is to be hoped that we are not always looking for financial gain, but that we may do some things out of pure gratitude and simple obedience to duty.

When our worthy forefathers went out to die upon the gory field of battle or shivered half naked on the cold camp ground, it was not the question of money that animated their manly breasts, but it was the question of liberty and love for themselves and their posterity. It was not the question of money that led Hobson and his daring followers into the glaring flames that burst thundering from the guns of Moro. It was but the realization of that patriotism that is taught in the American school and home. "Promote then, as an object of primary importance, institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge," for "The public school is the cheapest defense of the nation."

April.

APRIL is winter's laughing child whose unshorn locks, with swelling buds adorned, are wet with dimpling raindrops and flecked with passing sunbeams. The sky grows soft with promise, while joy and newborn hope stand jocund on the hills. Nature sings her opening anthem, and the flowers from sheltered valleys steal forth and swing their fragrant censers in the balmy air.—(C. W. Bliss in Montgomery News.)

The editors of this journal realize that those who follow them will have a tropical time of it. So we have made a contract for one gallon of liquified air to cool the brains of those who try to excel us.



ROBERT R. WARD,

President Class of '98, and winner of first prize in Oratorical Contest of the S. U. R. & C. R.,
The Queen, Ill., May '98.

Class of '98.

Colors, Green and Blue.

Motto, "Victoria est bonum laboris."

It was a class of eleven members—five girls and six boys—who started with merry hearts to tread the thorny path of their Senior year in the Benton High School, and all remained faithful to the end, though Geometry often proved a stumbling block which almost caused the weaker sex to fall by the wayside.

As our's was the first class to graduate under the present course of study, it was but natural for us to feel the importance of it, though we doubted the assertion "you may know a leader by the way he walks down the street."

For several months we pursued the even ~~more~~ ^{more} of our way, though beset by many snares and pitfalls in the way of tests and examinations. Our class did a good work during the term in outside reading which helped us greatly to connect the history and literature of the periods and bring the two more vividly to our minds.

We worked with two objects in view. First—for the good of the class as a whole. Second—each member worked for himself, but as we were all old friends, our work served to unite us more closely still and we could rejoice over

another's high grades without the rivalry which is sometimes seen.

Many incidents happened which we will never forget, but they do not seem so much to other people as to us. For instance, we remember the animated discussion over "cold snakes;" "the famous queen who went off and died;" and "about that time when it ^{reached} the price of pork." I must mention also the sympathetic girl who cried when the other one's tears flowed on account of a low grade in Physics.

In February our teacher took us to Carbondale for a day. We had to promise to behave in a very dignified manner while there, before he would consent to chaperone us. While in Carbondale we heard some fine lectures and talks by able speakers.

To Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Ward we are indebted for several pleasant evenings, especially the first elegant dinner they gave us.

Soon the day of days drew near. Friends and relatives came to hear our efforts. Orations and songs were practiced for the last time and it was not long until we were marching up the long aisle to take our places on the platform and deliver to the audience some of the truths which we had gleaned from the year's work. All too soon the scene was over and we were hearing the kind words of friends glad that it had passed off so well. But we were sorry that our work was done for it had truly been a happy year together and we little could foretell the changes that would take place ere another year had passed away.

A few words as to the members of the class and what they are doing.

Robert R. Ward, Class President and Salutatorian is taking a four year's course in the State University at Champaign.

Clyde Chenault is studying at Shurtleff College, Upper Alton, and is making a specialty of German and track athletics.

Gertie K. Weeks responds to the call of "Hello Central" and is getting very proficient in her calling.

William J. Fitzgerald is an employee of Fitzgerald & Hudelson.

A post graduate is Will Foulk who still keeps up his record for athletic sports.

Another Shurtleff student is Gertrude Swain who is studying as hard as ever.

Pearle Odum is at home cultivating the domestic virtues.

Edward B. Webster is now a jolly commercial traveler with the A. D. Jackson Saddlery Co.

Terzie I. Kirkpatrick has been in St. Louis this winter studying vocal music at the Beethoven Conservatory.

Charles Rose, our Valedictorian, is in Pinar del Rio, Cuba. He is in the hospital corps of the First U. S. Infantry.

Ye editor has been testing the beauty of "Home, Sweet Home," and trying to keep track of the other members of the class.

—KATE ELLIOTT HICKMAN.



BERTHA BUCHANAN. CHAS. A. AIKEN. BEULAH KIRKPATRICK.
EMMA JONES. WILLIS B. POPE. LEAH HUBBARD. WILLIAM C. LUDWIG.
GERTRUDE CARR. JOHN L. PAYNE. ETHEL CHENAUT.

Class of '99.

Colors, Purple and Yellow.

Motto, "Bon Scholae, sed vitae."

OFFICERS:—

JOHN PAYNE, President.
EMMA JONES, Vice President.
WILL C. LUDWIG, Secretary.
WILLIS POPE, Treasurer.

THE class of '99 consists of ten members, viz: Gertie Carr, Ethel Chenault, Leah Hubbard, Emma Jones, Beulah Kirkpatrick, Bertha Buchanan, Will C. Ludwig, John Payne, Willis Pope and Chas. A. Aiken.

This is the second class to complete the course of study as now arranged. The class is earnestly striving to make the closing days of their work in the High School as pleasant and profitable as possible.

On Sunday April 2, Rev. I. S. Hicks will preach the Baccalaureate Sermon. Thursday evening the class will give their Class Day exercise as outlined by the following program:

MUSIC.

President's Address, - - - GERTIE CARR
Historian, - - - - - EMMA JONES
Prophet, - - - - - BEULAH KIRKPATRICK

MUSIC.

Poet, - - - - - BEULAH KIRKPATRICK
Poem, - - - - - LEAH HUBBARD
Instrumental, - - - - - MISS ANTRIS
Class Orator, - - - - - WILL C. LUDWIG
Phrenologist, - - - - - CHAS. A. AIKEN

MUSIC.

Class Will, - - - - - WILLIS POPE
Class Song, - - - - -

On Friday eve, April 7, the Commencement exercises will be held at the opera house. Dr. Austen K. de Blois, President of State College, will deliver the address to the class. John Payne and Ethel Chenault will represent the class in oration.

By a unanimous vote the class decided to confer no class honors this year.

On account of some changes in the course of study, there will be no graduating class next year.

In looking over a catalog of '89 we find the members of the class of '99 distributed through the different grades as follows:

Chas. A. Aiken, First Primary; Will C. Ludwig, Ethel Chenault and Gertie Carr, Second Primary; R. C. Carr, Bertha Buchanan and Willis Pope, Second Primary; Leah Hubbard and John Payne, First Intermediate; Beulah Kirkpatrick and Emma Jones did not enter here this year.

This closes their work in the Public School. The curtain falls; we await the next act. The immortal Shakespeare says, "There was a stage, where every man must play a part."



The Departments.

THE above cut represents a group of boys from the Intermediate department. Mrs. Cross and Mrs. Burkitt are the instructors in these departments. They have both demonstrated their very excellent ability as teachers in their respective departments. The enrollment and attendance has been greater than heretofore. Following is a list of the A Grade from which will be selected the class to be promoted to the new building next year: Mary Ward, Emma Ludwig, Carmen Youngblood, Vivian Brownlee, Grace Moore, Katie Werner, Bertha Hicks, Cora Frazier, Geno Aiken, Anna Ruse, Ida Neal, Bertha Ragland, Willie McCreery, George Ward, Roy Hudelson, Clarence Malone, Charles Korman, George Smith, Charlie Gulley, Paul Pearl, Leo Glover, Richard Neal.

On account of the crowded condition of the Primary department we were forced to divide the A class and take one section to the First Intermediate room. This added extra work upon Mrs. Burkitt and placed some pupils at a disadvantage, but we look forward to the time when we will have a regular kindergarten department and remove all work from the Primary department. It is an economy to establish and maintain such a department. The enrollment in the First Primary room this year has reached over one hundred pupils. As knowledge is the best years of the child's life is gained about wholly from object lessons and personal contact with the teacher, it is reasonable to suppose that no teacher can give the proper attention to the number now in this department.

The Fifth and Sixth Grades have been well filled this year and the highest per cent in attendance has been reached in this department. We note a marked improvement in three of the essential lines of work since the

adoption of the present course of study and new texts on these subjects, viz: Arithmetic (mental, two years), Language (DeGarmo) and Writing (vertical).

Following is a list of the A Grade who will be promoted to the High School building (upstairs) next year, as Miss Swofford, their teacher, thinks they will be ready for promotion with two exceptions:

Gertie Bryant, Mabel Bell, Maude Durham, Stella Hutson, Barbara Ludwig, Sopha Moore, Jessie Prigmore, Effie Smith, Maggie Taylor, Ethel Taylor, Cloe Treece, Inez Jones, Luin Phipps, Jesse Reed, Rob't Womack, Edgar Orr, Claude Dorris, Arthur Rigsby.

A Comedy.

[FROM A '98 NOTE BOOK.]

It was evening. The lingering rays of the setting sun tinged the eastern horizon with purple and gold. The hum of the busy workers had long since died away and the school building seemed deserted save for the rhythmic notes that emanated from the quarters wherein the janitor plied his broom, and the Demosthenic tones that came from the auditorium, where the Seniors, for more than an hour, had drilled on pronunciation, enunciation, gesticulation, standing, walking, posing, etc., preparatory for the all-eventful, never-to-be-forgotten commencement.

Bennet had just made a home run; Jack stuck up on third and was recuperating for the finale, when Kate was called to the bat. Her reputation as an orator depended on that double gesture. Thus it must be, and for this end she was laboring, when a shrill scream rent the air, and the words, "a mouse! a mouse!" were all that could be heard, and these accompanied by gestures never before known to the dramatic art.

The little mouse meant no harm. He had only followed the instinct of nature and come nearer where he could better enjoy the music(?) but the girls tho't him an intruder, and so they screamed and climbed to the tops of the desks. But the boys, more brave, "Routed him and scouted him, nor lost a single man."

Athletics.

[W. H. FOULK.]

THE Fourth Annual Meeting of the Southern Illinois High School Athletic and Oratorical Association will meet at Carbondale, May 5, 1899. Following is the program:

9:00 a. m.—Business Meeting.

10:00 a. m.—Science and Drawing Exhibit open to Judges.

11:00 a. m.—Open to Visitors.

1:30 p. m.—Athletic Contest.

7:30 p. m.—Contest in Declamation and Oratory.

Awarding of Prizes, Medals and Pennants Reception.

It may be of interest to most of our readers to speak briefly of the S. I. A. & O. A.

At one of the State Teachers' Meetings at Springfield a few years ago, a number of the Principals and Superintendents of Southern Illinois gathered to discuss the efficacy of an Athletic and Oratorical Association. Soon afterwards, Prof. Mather, Superintendent of the Centralia Schools, communicated with a number of them which resulted in the permanent organization of the S. I. A. & O. A. The first meeting was held at Centralia. The success of the Association was assured from the first and we hope to see it continue to grow in interest and strength until it ranks favorably with the old Associations of the northern and central parts of the state.

Our people should feel proud that ours is one of the ten High Schools of Egypt that form this Association. The following named High Schools have membership in the Association: Cairo, DuQuoin, Murphysboro, Centralia, Carlyle, Flora, Benton, Anna, Fairfield and McLeansboro.

NOTES.

One gold medal will not satisfy us this

last watch that fellow walk. That's Aiken, don't you see?

Who said Billie wasn't an orator? Just hear the senatorial tone he employs.

This will be the banner year of the association. You can't afford to miss it.

Make preparation now to go to Carbondale. Don't fail to push matters for the coming contest.

If you want to know anything of track, grounds, rules, etc., address Prof. Whittington of the S. I. N. U.

That new bicycle is here and when it starts there is no stopping it unless the "awkward squad" run their feet into it and break it down.

Chas. Aiken will have to give up the walk if he accepts the position in the post-office, as Uncle Sam can't spare him long enough to keep up his practice.

Our Alumni.

CLASS OF '88.

N. B. Whittington	Oscar Feltz
Mattie Layman	John L. Browning
Nannie Browning	Charles W. West
Lila Hudson	Thomas Dineen
Ida Mooneyham	John C. Layman
Aileen Webster	Jim E. Browning

CLASS OF '89.

Ada Hoskinson	Jessie St. Clair
R. E. Hickman	Florence Hudson
Minnie Duff	Cora Secher
Vinnie Middleton	

CLASS OF '93.

Wilmie Weeks	George Hickman
Dora Vancil	Albert Stein
Mike Durham	Stella Threlkeld
Harvey Eakin	

CLASS OF '96.

W. P. Seeber	W. J. Payne
Thomas J. Layman	Will J. Orr

CLASS OF '98.

Rob't R. Ward	Clyde Chenault
Kate E. Hickman	Jack Fitzgerald
Pearle Odum	Will Foulk
Gertrude Swain	Terzie Kirkpatrick
Charles Rose	Gertie Weeks
Edward B. Webster	

CLASS OF '99.

John Payne	Willie Ludwig
Emma Jones	Willis Pope
Gertie Carr	Leah Hubbard
Ethel Chenault	Chas. Aiken
Beulah Kirkpatrick	Bertha Buchanan

To the Class of '99.

Floating, floating, slowly floating,
Down the running stream;
Launching forth in silver twilight,
Floating 'till the morning beam
Scatters radiance 'round about us, all unseen.

Launched, but whither are we going?
Will we calmly glide
From the streamlet to the river,
From the lake to ocean wide,
Slowly floating in our little boat, the tide?

Will no ocean gale disturb us,
Will no storms await;
Will no eddies, whirling, twirling,
Sweep us to a youthful fate,
Tempt us from our mighty seat, of fate?

Will life all be flowers and sunshine,
Peace and happiness?
Will life all be glorious springtime,
Calm and joyous rest,
Smoothly floating in our little boat, so blest?

No; life is real, life is earnest,
Life is not a dream.
Storms arouse, surround, o'er take us,
Clouded are the noonday beams,
And so dark the spreading lake before us
seems.

Classmates, we are launching thither,
On an unknown sea.
Bright the waters in the moonlight,
Bright our hopes and joyfully
Far beyond, the glittering goal, we see.

Honor, our watch-word on life's journey,
Great success our goal;
Knowledge is our great co-worker,
Helping the mysteries to unfold,
Which life may in her burdened bosom hold.

Let us then be up and doing,
Time ne'er waits the throng.
Boldly forth, from stream to ocean,
We steer our narrow course along—
"Not for School, but life," our song.

Some may never reach the ocean,
Only sail the calm;
Let us keep the goal before us,
And this be our cheering psalm:
"Let him who wins it bear the palm."

EMMA JONES, '99.

George A. Hickman,

Attorney at Law and Notary Public.

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Benton, - - Illinois.

Dr. A. G. Orr,

Physician and Surgeon.

Office and Residence on East Street.
Telephone No. 35.

Benton, - - Illinois.

Dr. J. P. Brown,

Physician and Surgeon.

Office on East Washington Street.
Telephone No. 39.

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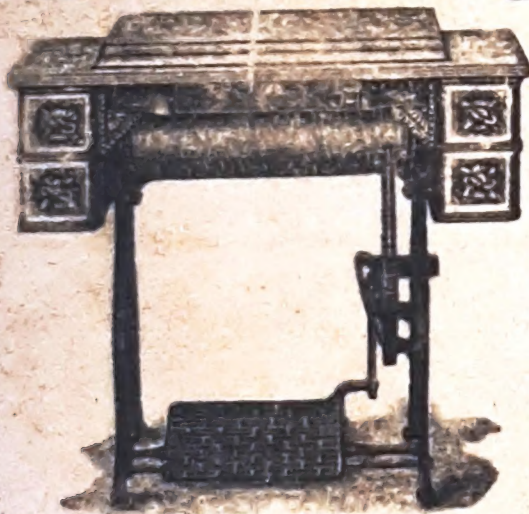
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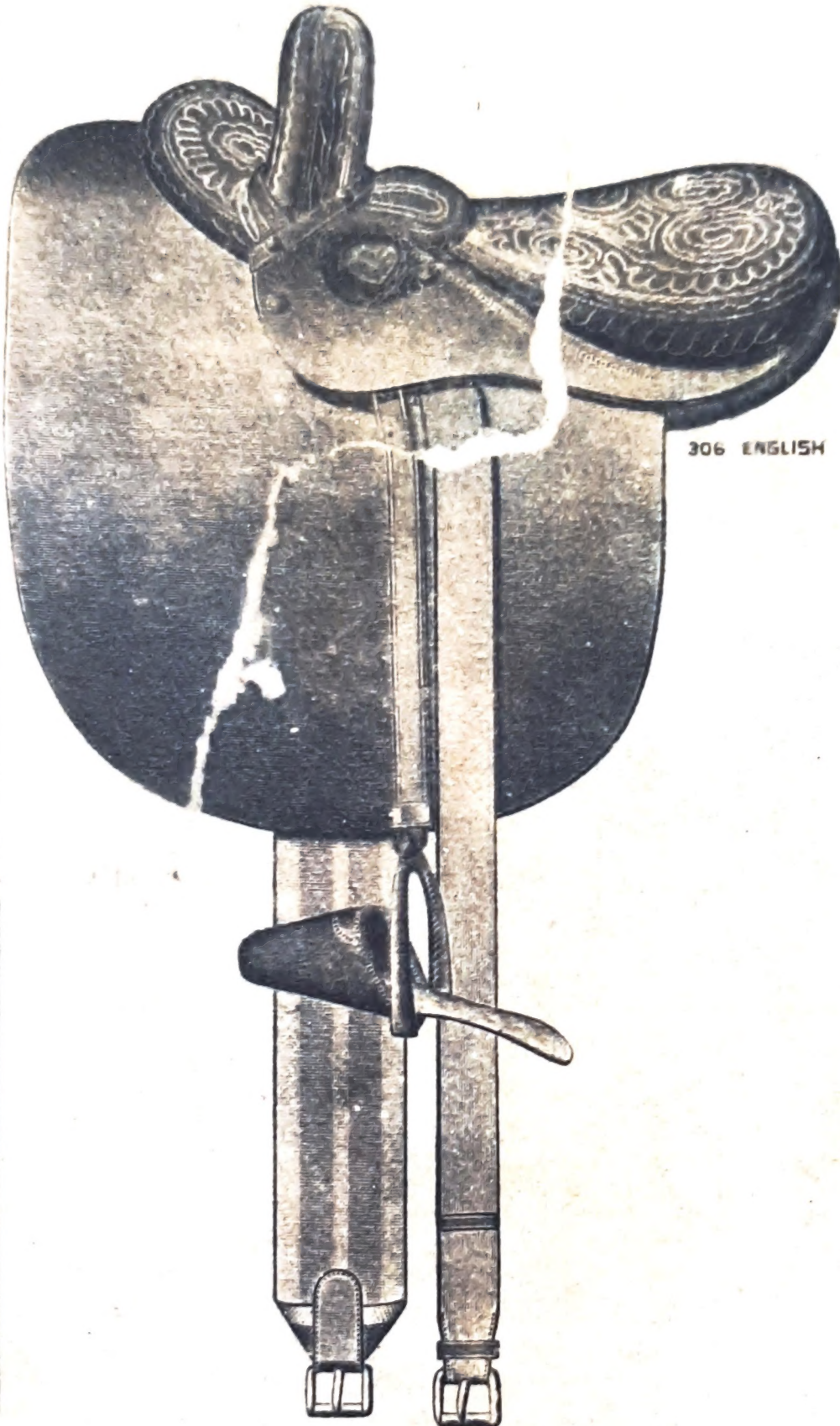
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